

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 SSM-03 IO-13 DOE-11
SOE-02 DOEE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NEAE-00 /085 W
-----058084 101644Z /62

O 101624Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6549
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 07864

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US
SUBJECT: AMOCO INCIDENT
REF: (A) CAIRO 7837, (B) CAIRO 7658, (C) STATE 59628

1. FONMIN KAMEL TELEPHONED LATE THIS AFTERNOON, ON INSTRUCTIONS OF PRESIDENT SADAT, TO INFORM US OF AMOCO RIG 511 INCIDENT AND TO CONVEY PRESIDENT SADAT'S DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE ISRAELI HARASSMENT. ALTHOUGH KAMEL AFFIRMED THAT GOE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE MEDIAN LINE, HE STATED THAT AMOCO HAD MADE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO POSITION RIG WEST OF ANY SUCH LINE. HENCE, THE ISRAELI HARASSMENT WAS DOUBLY DISTURBING. PRESIDENT SADAT, HE STATED SEVERAL TIMES, IS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ISRAELI HARASSMENT COMING AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME AND ASKED THAT THE MATTER BE BROUGHT TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S ATTENTION.

2. I TOLD KAMEL WE WERE ALREADY AWARE OF THE INCIDENT FROM AMOCO AND HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE ISRAELIS ON THE SUBJECT. SINCE KAMEL'S LAST INFORMATION SEEMED TO BE BASED ON A MARCH 7 REPORT, I TOLD HIM OF CURRENT SITUATION AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, BUT WITHOUT INDICATING
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AMOCO TACTICAL PLANS (REF A). KAMEL WAS GRATIFIED THAT WE HAVE ALREADY TAKEN UP THE MATTER WITH THE ISRAELIS AND HOPED WE COULD PERSUADE THEM TO DESIST. KAMEL KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE BACKGROUND OF THE GULF OF SUEZ OIL DRILLING CONTROVERSY AND SAID HE INTENDS TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. I TOLD HIM WE HAD HAD NUMEROUS EXCHANGES WITH HIS PREDECESSOR ON THE SUBJECT AND OFFERED TO BRIEF HIM ON THE

BACKGROUND AND WHAT USG HAS DONE IN THE PAST TO CONVEY ITS
LEGAL POSITION TO THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES. KAMEL SAID HE
WOULD ASK THE MFA LEGAL DIVISION FOR A REPORT AND WOULD
THEN PERHAPS REQUEST FROM ME ANY SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE.

3. I DELIBERATELY DID NOT INFORM KAMEL OF OUR EARLIER
NOTIFICATION TO THE ISRAELIS THAT THE RIG WOULD BE SENT
TO POSITION 373-2. EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP HARASSMENT, OFFSHORE DRILLING, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, TERRITORIAL WATERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780108-0530
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From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780384/aaaactar.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 12b4acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3377785
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMOCO INCIDENT
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US, AMOCO
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Type: TE
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